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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SECURITY INFORMATION
INFORMATION REPORT

RE

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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Improvement of Telephone Facilities in the
Potsdam Area

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In a 6-hour conference held at the Postal and Telecommunications Ministry in Berlin on 30 April, the improvement of telephone facilities in the Potsdam area was discussed. The conference was attended by Gebhardt (fmu), chief of the main department of telecommunications; the department chief of the department for telecommunications techniques; and two other assistants of the East German ministry besides two majors of the SCC and two leading officers of the East German Ministry of the Interior. Formerly, no representatives of the latter ministry had attended conferences with the SCC.

2. [redacted] the proceedings of this conference:

- a. It was resolved that the terminals of various long-distance cables which run north and south from Berlin were to be removed to Potsdam from the Dotti Strasse trunk exchange of the German postal administration and from the SCC exchange No 55. When the technical experts present at the conference pointed out the difficulties of this project, Gebhardt minimized these objections by stating that the execution of the problem was absolutely necessary. The chief of the department for telecommunications techniques and the two Soviet officers present had already inspected local conditions in Potsdam. In the course of the conference, it was also mentioned that the shifting of terminals of long-distance cables to Potsdam would meet the requirements created by a movement of SCC agencies from Karlshorst to Potsdam. 1
- b. The improvement of telephone facilities in Potsdam by the employment of an additional automatic telephone service installation with a capacity for 40 main lines and 400 extensions. The new installation is to be connected to 35 main lines and is to be provided with a battery plant having a capacity of 120 operational hours and a battery charger.

3. In early May, [redacted] much overtime was worked at the long-distance cable central in conjunction with numerous new circuit connection orders.

1. [redacted] Comment. The reported transfer of SCC agencies from Berlin-Karlshorst to Potsdam has not been confirmed so far.

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